

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device, the device comprising:
  - (a) A biodegradable a biodegradable balloon adapted to exert pressure on a hole formed in a lumen in the body when the balloon is placed inside the body adjacent to the hole, inside the body, and expanded, and adapted the balloon held to remain in place thereafter and further adapted to be absorbed by the body. the body; and
  - (b) a non-inflatable biodegradable anchor element coupled to the balloon and adapted to remain inside the lumen and hold the balloon in place outside the lumen.
- 2-5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 1, wherein the balloon is adapted to exert enough pressure to substantially stop bleeding from the hole, when the lumen is a blood vessel.
7. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 1, wherein the hole is a catheterization puncture in the blood vessel.
8. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 7, wherein the blood vessel is an artery.
9. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 1, wherein said balloon is inflated to a pressure of at most 1 bar.
10. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 1, wherein said balloon is inflated to a pressure of at most 6 bar.
11. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 1, wherein said balloon is elastically deformable when it expands.
12. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A-balloon according to claim 1, wherein said balloon plastically deforms when it expands.

13. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A balloon according to claim 1, comprising a channel for a guide wire.

14. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A balloon according to claim 1, comprising a sealing mechanism.

15. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A balloon according to claim 14, wherein said sealing mechanism comprises a valve.

16. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A balloon according to claim 14, wherein said sealing mechanism comprises a self-adhesive channel.

17. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A balloon according to claim 14, wherein said sealing mechanism comprises a self-sealing channel.

18-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A homeostasis device A balloon according to claim 1, coated on an inside surface thereof with an anti-adhesive material.

22-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) A biodegradable check valve adapted to seal an inflatable biodegradable balloon implanted inside the body.

29-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) A method of sealing an opening in a hollow structure in the body, the method comprising:

a) positioning an uninflated biodegradable balloon outside the structure, adjacent to the opening;

b) inflating the balloon, causing the balloon to press against the opening, at least partially sealing it;

c) leaving the balloon in place until it degrades and is absorbed by the body; and  
d) anchoring the balloon using a non-inflatable biodegradable anchor element attached to  
said balloon, said anchor element positioned inside the structure.

wherein the balloon does not degrade sufficiently to stop pressing against the opening until after the opening seals.

35-46. (Cancelled)

47. (New) A homeostasis device according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the device comprises a biodegradable polymer.

48. (New) A homeostasis device according to claim 1, wherein at /or any other biodegradable material.

49. (New) A homeostasis device according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the device comprises a biodegradable material which is neither a protein nor a polymer.

50. (New) A homeostasis device according to claim 1, at least a portion of the device comprises at least one biodegradable materials selected from the group consisting a polysaccharide, a polyhyularonic acid, a poly L-lactide and a poly DL-lactide.